

APPENDIX A

AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

Tables

Table 1 Common Noise Sources and Levels

Appendices

- Appendix A Agency Correspondence
- Appendix B Legal Notices and Media Information
- Appendix C Project Mailing Lists
- Appendix D Responses from Survey

☐ I have the following comments on the Rockville substation/transmission project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

☒ I have No comments on the Rockville Substation/transmission project

Name: Gary Schneider
Address: 11212 Grand Lake Rd
Cold Spring, MN
Phone Number: 320 255-8829

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DEC 15 2004

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

☒ I have No comments on the Rockville Substation/transmission project

Name: *ROBERT ERICKSON*

Address: *1410 ROBERTA DR*
ST. CLOUD, MN 56301

Phone Number: *320-251-2253*



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ST. PAUL DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
190 FIFTH STREET EAST
ST. PAUL MN 55101-1638

October 28, 2004

Construction-Operations
Regulatory (04-160045-YSB)

Ms. Carole L. Schmidt
Environmental Scientist
Great River Energy
17845 East Highway 10
P.O. Box 800
Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800

Dear Ms. Schmidt:

We have reviewed information about a project of Great River Energy and Xcel Energy regarding a new 115 kV transmission line and substation upgrades near Rockville. The project sites are located in Secs. 24, 25, 26, 34, and 35, T. 124 N., R. 29 W., and Sec. 3, T. 123 N., R. 29 W., Stearns County, Minnesota.

The placement of poles and overhead wiring is not within the jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers, provided the work does not involve the placement of dredged or fill material into any wetland or waterbody area.

Temporary placement of fill material into any waterbody or wetland for purposes such as bypass roads, temporary stream crossings, cofferdam construction, or storage sites may require a Department of the Army permit. If your proposal would require temporary filling, please contact our office immediately.

Without detailed construction plans, we cannot provide specific comments regarding the effects that the proposed activity would have on watercourse flood stages. It has been our experience that underground and overhead utility construction has negligible effects on flood stages, provided excess construction material is removed from the floodplain and additional care is taken not to disturb its hydraulic characteristics.

You may also need city, county, or State permits for the project. You should contact the appropriate agencies for their permit requirements.

You should also contact the State Historical Preservation Officer (SHPO) to determine if there are any known historic or archeological sites in the area or if any cultural resource survey would be required.

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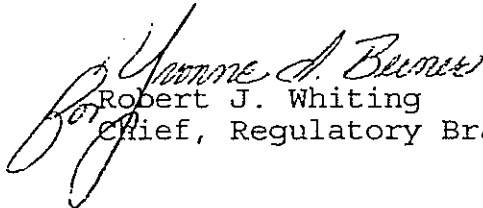
☐ I have the following comments on the Rockville substation/transmission project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

☒ I have No comments on the Rockville Substation/transmission project

Name: *John N. Hoffmann*
Address: *26274 93rd Ave.*
St. Cloud, MN 56301
Phone Number: *320-252-4896*

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Yvonne Berner in our St. Paul District office at (651) 290-5365. In any correspondence or inquiries, please refer to the Regulatory number shown above.

Sincerely,


Robert J. Whiting
Chief, Regulatory Branch

Tables

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☐

I have the following comments on the Rockville substation/transmission project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

☒

I have No comments on the Rockville Substation/transmission project

Name: KTH II f/p
Address: 2195 Silver Lake Road
New Brighton, MN 55112
Phone Number: 651-636-9791

United States Department of Agriculture



Waite Park Field Office
110 Second Street South, Suite 128
Waite Park, MN 56387
(320) 251-7800, ext. 3

September 29, 2004

Carole L. Schmidt
P.O. Box 800
17845 East Hwy 10
Elk River, MN 55330

Dear Ms. Schmidt:

This letter is in response to your letter regarding the construction of the 115 kV transmission line project between County Road 60 and 93rd Ave near Rockville and Waite Park, MN.

The Waite Park Field office is responding specifically to your mailing dated September 1, 2004. NRCS has reviewed soil maps and determined there will be approximately 14.2 acres of prime and unique farmland impacted by the project area.

It is responsibility of the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to monitor the effects of the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses through the Farmland Protection Act (FPPA, Public Law 97-98, December 22, 1981).

NRCS recommends the use of Best Management Practices, such as silt fences, stockpiling topsoil, sediment basins and temporary mulching erosive areas and stockpiles to minimize erosion and sediment in runoff during construction.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed project. If NRCS can be of any further assistance please contact our office at (320) 251-7800, extension 3.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Sellnow
District Conservationist

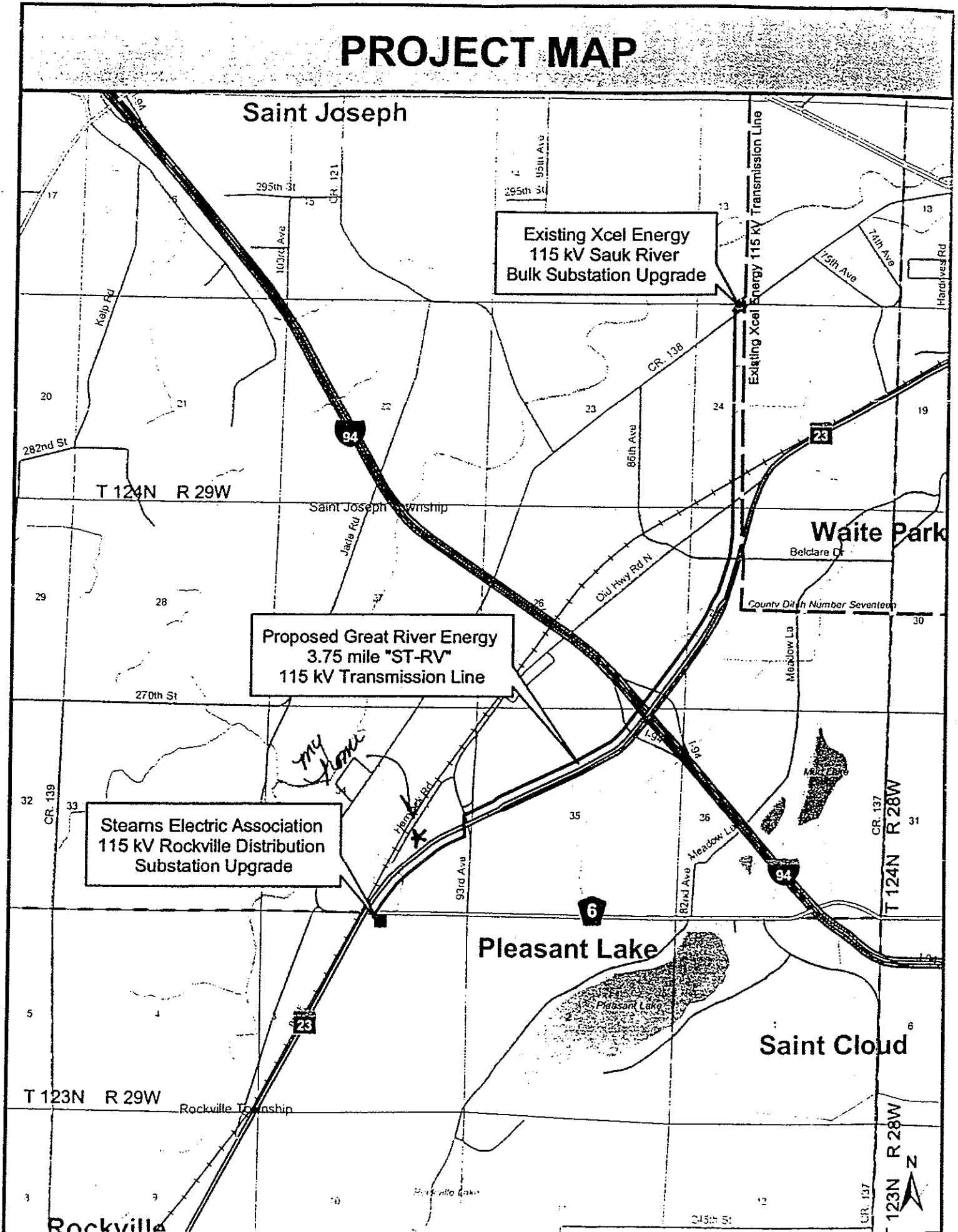
Enclosure

Cc. Area 4 NRCS Office, Area Soil Scientist

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PROJECT MAP



FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING SPREADSHEET

Note: Enter Data only in the boxes highlighted in yellow.

Name of Project: 115 Kv Transmission Line Project near Rockville, MN
 Proposed Landuse: 115 Kv transmission line
 Evaluated By: MMD

PART II			
1	Date Request Received By NRCS		09/01/04
2	Does this site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland?	Yes	
3	Acres Irrigated	0.0	
4	Average Farm Size	241.0 ac.	
5	Major Crops(s)	Corn, Soybeans, Hay	
6	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction (Acres)	700,320	82%
7	Amount Of Farmland As Defined In FPPA (Acres)	613,491	88%
8	Name of Land Evaluation System Used	Le Part of LESA	
9	Name of Local Site Assessment System	NA	
10	Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS		09/27/04

PART IV			
1	Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland		142
2	Total Acres Statewide and Local Important Farmland		0.4
3	Percentage of Farmland in County or Local Gov. Unit to Be Converted		0.0024
4	Percentage of Farmland in Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value		0.0018

PART V			
1	Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted (0-100 points)		82

				Prime/State
1	142	1.3		Prime
2	181	4.4		Other
3	183	4.4		Other
4	261	0.4		Other
5	281	3.6		Prime
6	325	2.3		Other
7	540	1.5		Other
8	543	5.7		Other
9	1016	0.3		Other
10	163B	4		Prime
11	204C	0.4		State
12	204E	0.1		Other
13	41B	1.5		Other
14	7B	1.8		Prime
15	163B	3.5		Prime
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				
Totals:			35.2	

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DEC 16 2004

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Tables

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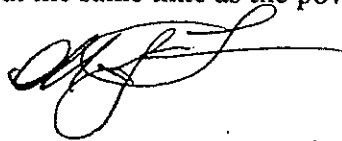
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☒ I have the following comments on the Rockville substation/transmission project: (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

*My request is that you consider the question? While I'm in here doing what is necessary to improve the quality of our lives with the improvement of our energy resources, what else can be done at the same time that would improve the lives of our residents, as well as improve the wildlife habitat and it's environment. I count between 6-9 deer killed within the area highlighted in orange on the map. Just since October I know of 3 already. Could we work with MnDot and put a deer proof fence on one, or both sides of the HWY 23. It would seem like it could be less expensive, and less invasive to our environment to do it at the same time as the power lines are improved.

Thank you for asking for our input.



*see attached map showing location of property.

☐ I have No comments on the Rockville Substation/transmission project

Name: MIKE Fanslau

Address: 9595 HEMLOCK RD
ST. CLOUD, MN 56301

Phone Number: 320 - 202 - 7838



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

October 7, 2004

Ms. Carole Schmidt
Great River Energy
PO Box 800
Elk River, MN 55330-0800

RE: Proposed Rockville Substation/115 kV transmission line project
Stearns County
SHPO Number: 2005-0006

Dear Ms. Schmidt:

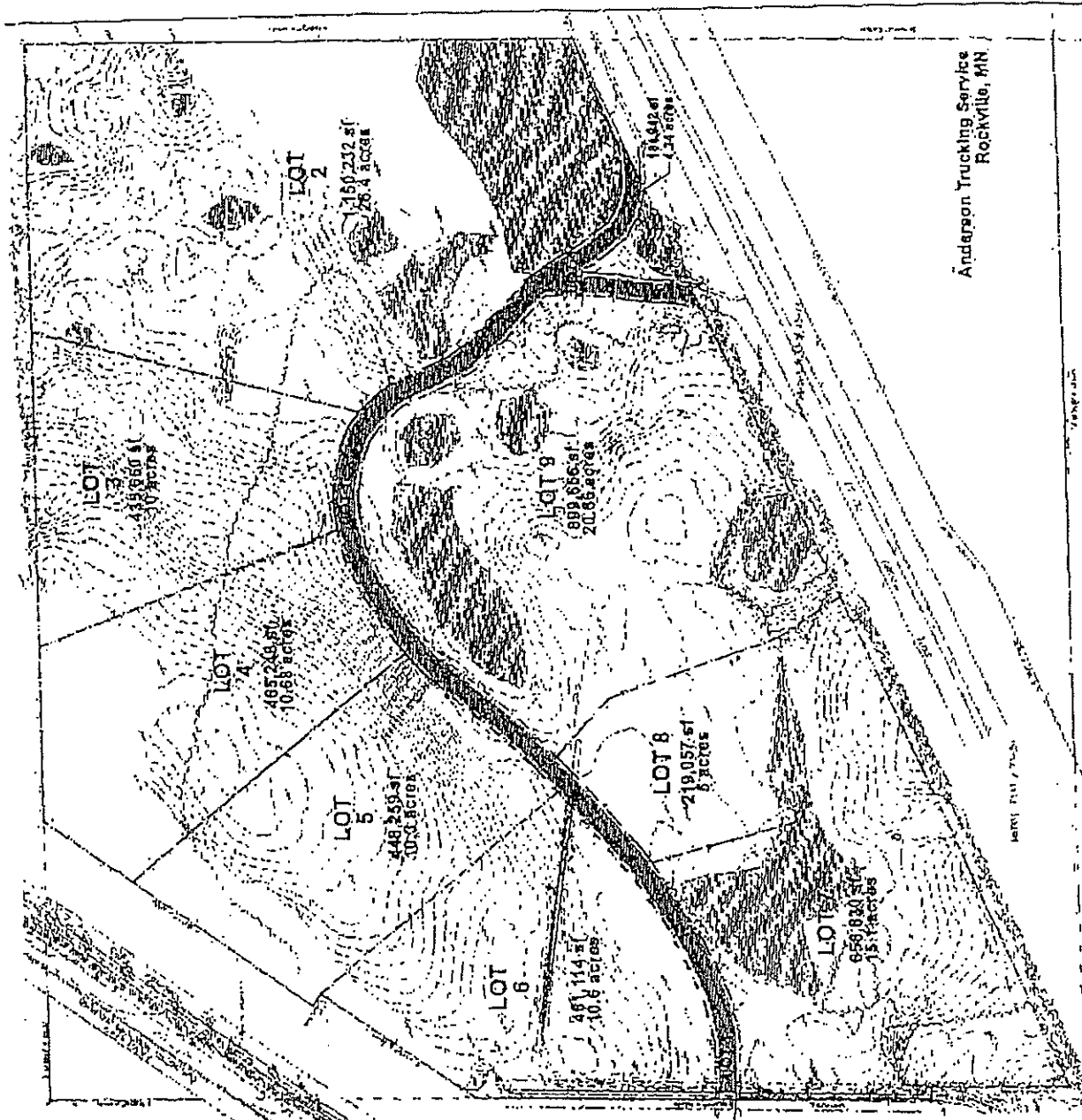
Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Officer by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36CFR800).

Based on available information, we conclude that **no properties** eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places are within the project's area of effect.

Please contact Dennis Gimmestad at (651) 296-5462 if you have any questions regarding our review of this project.

Sincerely,

Britta L. Bloomberg
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer



Anderson Trucking Service
Rockville, MN

Schmidt, Carole GRE/ER

From: Nick_Rowse@fws.gov
Sent: Friday, October 15, 2004 10:12 AM
To: Schmidt, Carole GRE/ER
Subject: Re: Rockville project

Dear Carole,

I have reviewed the proposed Rockville Substation/115 kV transmission line project and found no federally listed species in the project area.

Nick Rowse
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Twin Cities Field Office
4101 American Blvd. E.
Bloomington, MN 55425-1665
612-725-3548 x210

"Schmidt, Carole
GRE/ER"
<cschmidt@GREnerg
y.com>

10/13/2004 12:42
PM

<Nick_Rowse@fws.gov>

Rockville project

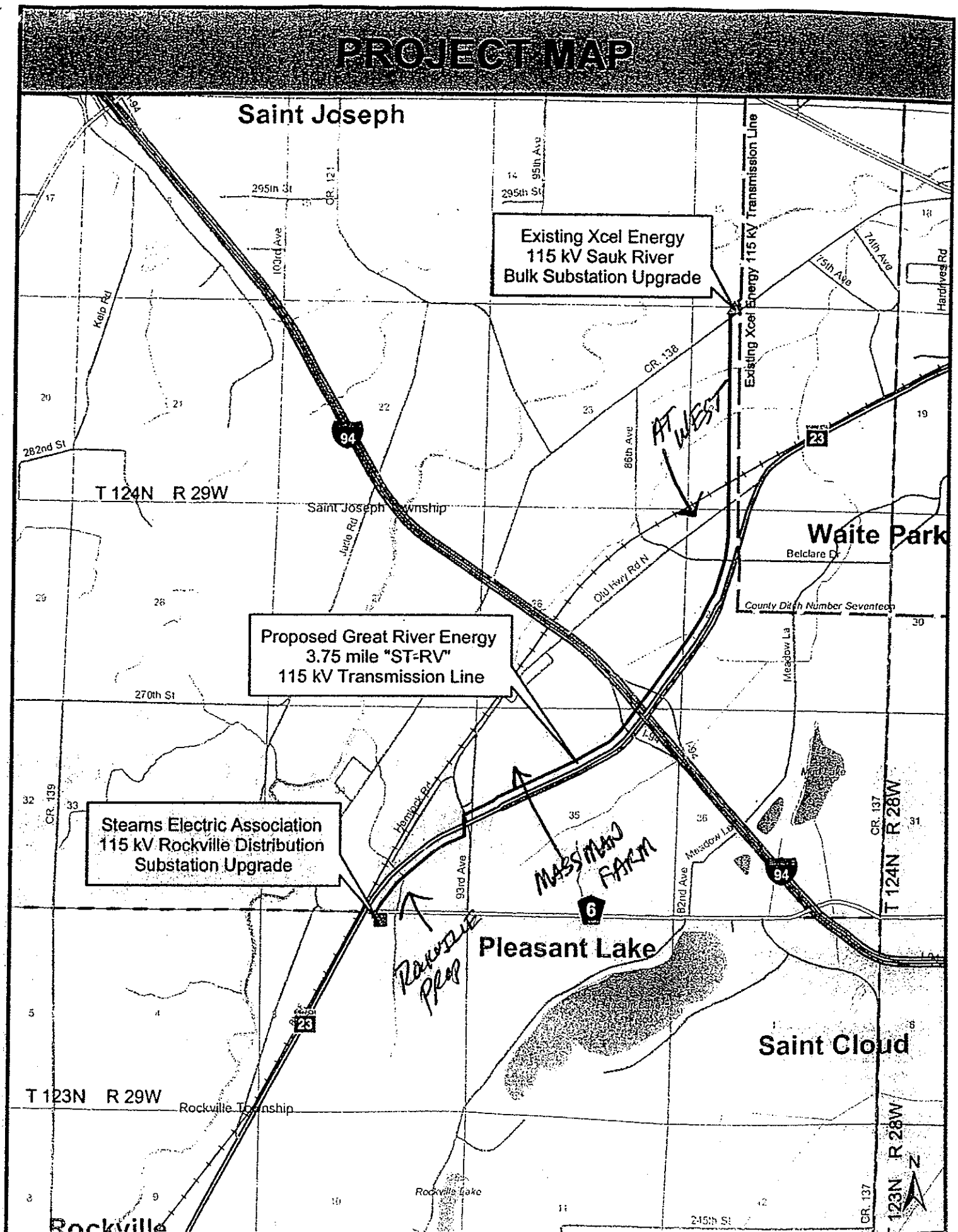
To

cc

Subject

Hi Nick - I was wondering if you have had a chance to review the Rockville Substation/115 kV Transmission Project (Stearns County) I sent to you on September 1. Thanks! Carole Schmidt

PROJECT MAP



Schmidt, Carole GRE/ER

From: Tom Balcom [tom.balcom@dnr.state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2004 10:19 AM
To: Schmidt, Carole GRE/ER
Subject: Various Projects Review

The Department of Natural Resources has reviewed the following projects for impacts on natural resources and we have no further comments:

- 69kV Transmission Line (PD Line) from Pine City to Sandstone
- 69kV Mission Breaker Station
- Rockville Substation/115kV Transmission Line
- 69 kV Transmission Line West of Lake Crystal

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these projects.

Tom Balcom
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Division of Ecological Services
Environmental Review Unit Supervisor
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Mn 55155-4010
651-296-4796 (office)
651-296-6047 (fax)
tom.balcom@dnr.state.mn.us

Ms. Jennifer Buckentine

December 17, 2004

Page 2

2. The property designated as "Massman Property" is owned by Anderson Properties of St. Cloud, LLP. This property's future use is planned for a commercial office and warehouse business park. I have enclosed a copy of the future proposed plat. The placement of this line would have a severe impact on Lots 7 and 9. It will also have an impact on wetland and ponding. In effect, this would destroy the use of Lot 7. In addition, the power poles along the highway may pose an access issue when the land is developed. Specifically, the poles may end up in the access roadway. There is also considerable impact on the wetlands and ponding. Compensation would be sought for Lots 7, 9, and any other residual effect on the balance of the property.
3. The property that is referred to as "ATS West Property" is owned by Anderson Properties of St. Cloud, LLP. This property is already burdened with an overhead easement crossing the property. Adding another easement may make all of the property along Highway 23 unbuildable and unsellable. Losing this frontage property will have a direct impact on the value of the property to the rear. This property is presently used as a commercial housing and truck facility site. The overhead utilities could potentially affect communication abilities.

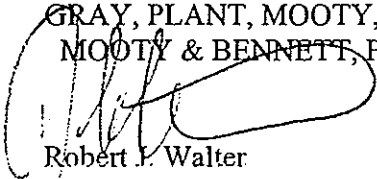
My clients would request that Great River Energy and Stearns Electric Association reconsider the siting of this power line along this particular corridor. We would suggest that the corridor be placed along the east side of Highway 23, which would either lessen or completely diminish the impact on the Massman Farm Property and the ATS West Property.

If there is anything further that we could provide to you, please contact either myself at 202-5336 or Kevin Olson at Anderson Trucking Service at 255-7400.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

GRAY, PLANT, MOOTY,
MOOTY & BENNETT, P.A.



Robert J. Walter

RJW:pcg

Enclosures

cc: Anderson Trucking Service, Inc. (w/o enc.)
ATTN: Kevin Olson

GP:1659036 v2

Schmidt, Carole GRE/ER

From: Harris Baker [Harris.Baker@dot.state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, November 16, 2004 11:09 AM
To: Schmidt, Carole GRE/ER
Subject: Re: Project reviews

Carole, I have looked at the projects and they pose no hazard to public airports in the area. Thank you.

>>> "Schmidt, Carole GRE/ER" <cschmidt@greenergy.com> 11/16/04 10:29AM

>>>

Hi Harris - I am wondering if you have had a chance to review a couple transmission projects I sent to Kathy Vesely (she has indicated that these were passed to you) awhile back:

Rockville Substation modifications and transmission line - Stearns County, review request letter sent September 1, 2004 Northstar 69 kV transmission line - Blue Earth County, review request letter sent September 23, 2004

I need to get the environmental reports for these projects to the RUS very soon, and would appreciate a response from you if possible. An e-mail response regarding airports (or lack thereof) in the vicinity is all I really need. Thanks, Harris.

Carole Schmidt
Environmental Scientist
Great River Energy
763-241-2272



1010 WEST ST. GERMAIN STREET
SUITE 600
ST. CLOUD, MN 56301

320 252-4444
Fax: 320 252-4444

REVISED

500 IDS CENTER
80 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3796

612 632-3000
Fax: 612 632-4444

Reply to St. Cloud

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DEC 20 2004

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Robert J. Walter
320 202-5336

Robert.walter@gpmlaw.com



December 17, 2004

MS JENNIFER BUCKENTINE
STEARNS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
705 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
ROOM 343
ST CLOUD MN 56303

RE: Proposed Transmission Line Near Rockville
Our File No. 101324

Dear Ms. Buckentine:

Our firm represents two property owners that are impacted by the proposed Transmission Line Project by Great River Energy and Stearns Electric Association. This is in response to your December 2, 2004, letter.

Anderson Grandchildren Family Limited Partnership is the owner of the property that I will refer to as the "Rockville Property," and is depicted on the project map that I have attached.

Anderson Properties of St. Cloud, LLP is the owner of two parcels that are impacted, and they are referred to as the "Massman Farm" and "AT West" on the attached project map. We offer the following response to your December 2, 2004, letter:

1. In regards to the Rockville Property owned by Anderson Grandchildren Family Limited Partnership, the intended use of this property is residential. At the present time, there are two billboard sign leases with Lamar Outdoor Advertising. These sign leases provide substantial revenue stream. The siting of the line will impact the ability to continue these leases because of the location of the proposed line, and the topography of the land. Since the intended use of this property is residential, this power line would have an economic impact on the future lots. The placing of this line will have an impact on the amount of land that is available for development. Compensation would be sought for the loss of revenue from the sign leases and loss of value of the easement and residual impact to the land.



17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366

1 September 2004

Ms. Kathy Vesely
Office of Aeronautics
Minnesota Department of Transportation
222 E. Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55107-1618

RE: Proposed Rockville Substation/115 kV Transmission Line Project
Stearns County, Minnesota

Dear Ms. Vesely:

On behalf of Great River Energy (GRE), Stearns Electric Association (SEA), and Xcel Energy, GRE is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line and substation upgrades near Rockville in Stearns County, Minnesota. The project is needed to provide better reliability and to meet growing electrical needs in the area.

The proposed project includes:

- Upgrading SEA's Rockville Substation from 34.5 kV to 115 kV
- Construction of 3.75 miles of new GRE 115 kV transmission line
- Conversion of Xcel Energy's Sauk River Substation from an in-and-out configuration to a 4-position ring bus configuration

The project is located in Sections 24, 25, 26, 34 and 35 T124N, R29W; and Section 3, T123N, R29W. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

GRE is requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on airports or airstrips in the project area. The single circuit structures will be 70-80 feet above ground.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, October 1, 2004. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-2272. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is cschmidt@greenergy.com. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Carole L. Schmidt
Environmental Scientist

Enclosure



GREAT RIVER
ENERGY

1 September 2004

17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366
Ms. Yvonne Berner
Department of the Army
Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District, Attn: CO-R
190 Fifth Street East
St. Paul, MN 55101-1638

RE: Proposed Rockville Substation/115 kV Transmission Line Project
Stearns County, Minnesota

Dear Ms. Berner:

On behalf of Great River Energy (GRE), Stearns Electric Association (SEA), and Xcel Energy, GRE is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line and substation upgrades near Rockville in Stearns County, Minnesota. The project is needed to provide better reliability and to meet growing electrical needs in the area.

The proposed project includes:

- Upgrading SEA's Rockville Substation from 34.5 kV to 115 kV
- Construction of 3.75 miles of new GRE 115 kV transmission line
- Conversion of Xcel Energy's Sauk River Substation from an in-and-out configuration to a 4-position ring bus configuration

The project is located in Sections 24, 25, 26, 34 and 35 T124N, R29W; and Section 3, T123N, R29W. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

GRE is requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on floodplains, wetlands, and other important natural resources that occur in the project area.

The transmission line will cross one DNR-protected wetland (594W), but disturbance will be limited to placement of poles in the wetland. GRE will apply to the DNR Division of Lands and Minerals for a license to cross that wetland.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, October 1, 2004. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-2272. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is cschmidt@greenergy.com. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Carole L. Schmidt
Environmental Scientist

Enclosure

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See Attached Letter

☐ **I have No comments on the Rockville Substation/transmission project**

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:



17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366

1 September 2004

Mr. Nick Rowse, Habitat Conservation Biologist
United States Department of the Interior
Twin Cities Field Office
4101 East 80th Street
Bloomington, MN 55425-1665

RE: Proposed Rockville Substation/115 kV Transmission Line Project
Stearns County, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Rowse:

On behalf of Great River Energy (GRE), Stearns Electric Association (SEA), and Xcel Energy, GRE is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line and substation upgrades near Rockville in Stearns County, Minnesota. The project is needed to provide better reliability and to meet growing electrical needs in the area.

The proposed project includes:

- Upgrading SEA's Rockville Substation from 34.5 kV to 115 kV
- Construction of 3.75 miles of new GRE 115 kV transmission line
- Conversion of Xcel Energy's Sauk River Substation from an in-and-out configuration to a 4-position ring bus configuration

The project is located in Sections 24, 25, 26, 34 and 35 T124N, R29W; and Section 3, T123N, R29W. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

GRE is requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on any listed or proposed threatened or endangered species and designated or proposed critical habitat that may be present in the project area. The proposed project does not represent a "major construction activity" as defined in 50 CFR 402.02.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, October 1, 2004. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-2272. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is cschmidt@greenergy.com. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Carole L. Schmidt
Environmental Scientist

Enclosure

PROJECT MAP

Saint Joseph

Existing Xcel Energy
115 kV Sauk River
Bulk Substation Upgrade

Existing Xcel Energy 115 kV Transmission Line

T 124N R 29W

Saint Joseph Township

Proposed Great River Energy
3.75 mile "ST-RV"
115 kV Transmission Line

Stearns Electric Association
115 kV Rockville Distribution
Substation Upgrade

Waite Park

Belclare Cr

County District Number Seventeen

270th St

Pleasant Lake

6

Saint Cloud

T 123N R 29W

Rockville Township

T 124N R 28W

T 123N R 28W

N

Rockville

245th St

CR 137

282nd St

Kelp Rd

295th St

CR 121

95th Ave
295th St

CR 138

65th Ave

Old Hwy Rd N

Meadow Ln

Mud Lake

93rd Ave

62nd Ave

Meadow Ln

CR 137



17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366

1 September 2004

Ms. Britta L. Bloomberg
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Minnesota Historical Society
345 Kellogg Blvd. West
St. Paul, MN 55102-1906

RE: Proposed Rockville Substation/115 kV Transmission Line Project
Stearns County, Minnesota

Dear Ms. Bloomberg:

On behalf of Great River Energy (GRE), Stearns Electric Association (SEA), and Xcel Energy, GRE is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line and substation upgrades near Rockville in Stearns County, Minnesota. The project is needed to provide better reliability and to meet growing electrical needs in the area.

The proposed project includes:

- Upgrading SEA's Rockville Substation from 34.5 kV to 115 kV
- Construction of 3.75 miles of new GRE 115 kV transmission line
- Conversion of Xcel Energy's Sauk River Substation from an in-and-out configuration to a 4-position ring bus configuration

The project is located in Sections 24, 25, 26, 34 and 35 T124N, R29W; and Section 3, T123N, R29W. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

GRE is requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on historic properties in the project area.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, October 1, 2004. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-2272. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is cschmidt@greenergy.com. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Carole L. Schmidt

Carole L. Schmidt
Environmental Scientist

Enclosure


Rockville Substation / ST-RV 115 kV Transmission Line project



GREAT RIVER
ENERGY

GREAT RIVER ENERGY
17845 East Hwy 10 P.O. Box 800
Elk River, MN 55330-0800
763-441-3121
www.greatriverenergy.com



A Touchstone Energy[®] Cooperative 
The power of human connections

STEARNS ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
900 East Kraft Drive PO Box 40
Melrose, MN 56352
800-962-0655
www.stearnslectric.org



XCEL ENERGY
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401
612-330-5893
www.xcelenergy.com

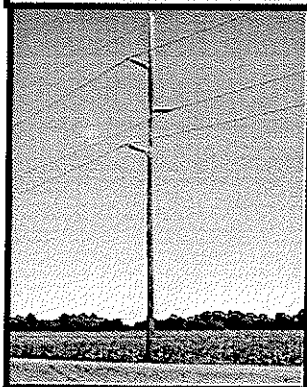
PROJECT NEED

The existing electric transmission and distribution system serving the area in the vicinity of Rockville needs to be upgraded to provide better reliability and increased capacity to serve the increasing load. The existing 34.5 kV system in this area is weak and historically has not satisfied reliability standards. Conversion to a 115 kV system will allow Stearns Electric Association (SEA) to better transfer loads between multiple distribution substations during emergency situations and during routine switching operations. Furthermore, upgrading to a 115 kV system in the Rockville area will meet SEA customer's electric needs for several decades.

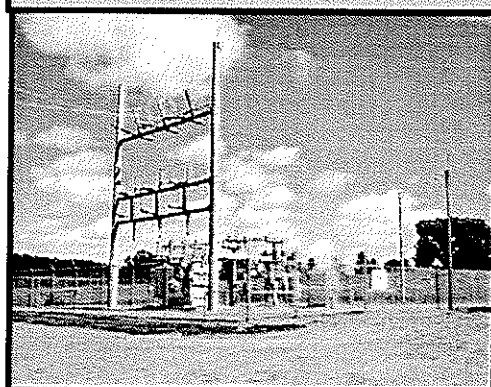
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project includes the construction of 3.75 miles of 115 kV transmission line by Great River Energy (GRE) of Elk River, MN. GRE is an electric generation and transmission cooperative providing wholesale electricity to SEA. The new transmission line will deliver electricity from the existing Xcel Energy Sauk River Substation to SEA's Rockville distribution substation. The Rockville distribution substation is located at the intersection of Trunk Highway 23 and Stearns County Road 6. The proposed transmission line route will generally follow State Highway 23 from the Rockville Substation northeasterly to where it intersects an existing Xcel Energy 115 kV transmission line. The new transmission line will continue northerly, parallel with the existing Xcel Energy line to the Sauk River Substation (see Project Map on back). Figure 1 and Figure 2 illustrate typical 115 kV transmission line structures and a typical 115 kV distribution substation that will be utilized for this project. To make provisions for connecting the proposed GRE 115 kV transmission line, Xcel Energy plans to convert its existing in and out 115 kV Sauk River Substation to a 4-position ring bus configuration. Figure 3 illustrates the existing Sauk River Substation.

**Figure 1:
Typical GRE
115 kV Structure**



**Figure 2:
Typical Stearns Electric
115 kV Distribution Substation**



**Figure 3:
Existing Xcel Energy
Sauk River Substation**



PROJECT SCHEDULE

Conditional Use Permitting	_____	Fall, 2004
Easement Acquisition	_____	Spring, 2005
Transmission Line / Substation Construction	_____	Fall, 2005
Energize	_____	December, 2005

CONTACTS

Rick Heuring
Great River Energy
763-241-2337
1-800-442-3013
rheuring@grenergvy.com

Tim Weir
Stearns Electric Assoc.
320-256-1604
1-800-962-0655
tweir@stearnslectric.org

Pam Rasmussen
Xcel Energy
1-800-7968 (Ext. 4661)
pamela.io.rasmussen@xcelenergy.com



17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366

1 September 2004

Mr. Steven Sellnow, District Conservationist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Waite Park Field Office
Marketplace of Waite Park
110 2nd Street S., Suite 128
Waite Park, MN 56387-1367

RE: Proposed Rockville Substation/115 kV Transmission Line Project
Stearns County, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Sellnow:

On behalf of Great River Energy (GRE), Stearns Electric Association (SEA), and Xcel Energy, GRE is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line and substation upgrades near Rockville in Stearns County, Minnesota. The project is needed to provide better reliability and to meet growing electrical needs in the area.

The proposed project includes:

- Upgrading SEA's Rockville Substation from 34.5 kV to 115 kV
- Construction of 3.75 miles of new GRE 115 kV transmission line
- Conversion of Xcel Energy's Sauk River Substation from an in-and-out configuration to a 4-position ring bus configuration

The project is located in Sections 24, 25, 26, 34 and 35 T124N, R29W; and Section 3, T123N, R29W. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

GRE is requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on important or prime farmlands in the project area.

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, October 1, 2004. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-2272. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is cschmidt@greenergy.com. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

GREAT RIVER ENERGY

Carole L. Schmidt
Environmental Scientist

Enclosure

Tables

Table 1 Common Noise Sources and Levels

Appendices

- Appendix A Agency Correspondence
- Appendix B Legal Notices and Media Information
- Appendix C Project Mailing Lists
- Appendix D Responses from Survey

☐ **I have the following comments on the Rockville substation/transmission project:** (Please write your comments below. Use another sheet of paper if more space is needed.)

☐ **I have No comments on the Rockville Substation/transmission project**

Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Preliminary Table of Contents

- 1.0 Executive Summary
- 2.0 General Description of the Proposed Project
 - 2.1 Project Location
 - 2.2 Project Need
 - 2.3 Summary of Project Proposal
 - 2.4 Project Schedule
- 3.0 Engineering Design, Construction and Right-of-Way Acquisition
 - 3.1 Transmission Line
 - 3.2 Substation Modifications
 - 3.3 ROW Acquisitions
- 4.0 Environmental Analysis
 - 4.1 Description of Environmental Setting
 - 4.2 Human Settlement
 - 4.3 Noise
 - 4.4 Aesthetics
 - 4.5 Recreation
 - 4.6 Public Services
 - 4.7 Transportation
 - 4.8 Land Use/Zoning
 - 4.9 Soils/Prime Farmland
 - 4.10 Vegetation
 - 4.11 Mining
 - 4.12 Archaeological and Historic Resources
 - 4.13 Air Quality
 - 4.14 Water Resources/Wetlands
 - 4.15 Fish/Wildlife Resources and Threatened and Endangered Species
 - 4.16 Human Health and Safety
 - 4.17 Physical Safety
 - 4.18 Human and Natural Environmental Effects that Cannot be Avoided
- 5.0 Agency Involvement, Public Participation and Required Permits and Approvals
 - 5.1 Overview of Minnesota Approval Process
 - 5.2 Local Review
 - 5.3 Public Involvement
 - 5.4 Required Permits and Approvals
- 6.0 References

Figures

- Figure 1 General Vicinity Map
- Figure 2 Existing and Proposed Systems
- Figure 3 115 kV Horizontal Post Structure
- Figure 4 Typical 115 kV Substation
- Figure 5 Stearns County Official Zoning – St. Joseph Township
- Figure 6 Sensitive Areas – St. Joseph Quadrangle



17845 East Highway 10 • P.O. Box 800 • Elk River, Minnesota 55330-0800 • 763-441-3121 • Fax 763-241-2366

1 September 2004

Mr. Thomas W. Balcom, Supervisor
Natural Resources Planning and Review Services
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Proposed Rockville Substation/115 kV Transmission Line Project
Stearns County, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Balcom:

On behalf of Great River Energy (GRE), Stearns Electric Association (SEA), and Xcel Energy, GRE is in the process of preparing an environmental assessment for a new 115 kV transmission line and substation upgrades near Rockville in Stearns County, Minnesota. The project is needed to provide better reliability and to meet growing electrical needs in the area.

The proposed project includes:

- Upgrading SEA's Rockville Substation from 34.5 kV to 115 kV
- Construction of 3.75 miles of new GRE 115 kV transmission line
- Conversion of Xcel Energy's Sauk River Substation from an in-and-out configuration to a 4-position ring bus configuration

The project is located in Sections 24, 25, 26, 34 and 35 T124N, R29W; and Section 3, T123N, R29W. A project description/site map is enclosed for your information.

GRE is requesting information on the possible effects of the proposed project on wetlands, threatened and endangered species, and other important state natural resources that occur in the project area.

The transmission line will cross one protected wetland (594W). GRE will apply to the DNR Division of Lands and Minerals for a license to cross that wetland. The Minnesota Natural Heritage database was reviewed and there are no Sensitive Areas in the vicinity of the project (see enclosed map).

GRE has requested environmental review of the project by several federal and state agencies. The status of those reviews is provided below.

United States Corps of Engineers – project is not within the jurisdiction of the Corps of Engineers.

United States Fish and Wildlife Service – no federally listed species in the project area.

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service – recommends using Best Management Practices during construction to minimize erosion and sediment in runoff.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – no comments on the project.

Minnesota Historical Society – no properties eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places are within the project's area of effect.

Minnesota Department of Transportation (aviation issues) – the project will pose no hazard to public airports in the area.

Thank you for your input on this project. Please return your survey form in the self-addressed envelope provided by Friday, December 17, 2004.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Buckentine".

Jennifer Buckentine
Planning Specialist
County of Stearns Environmental Services

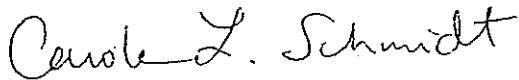
Enclosures

Mr. Thomas Balcom
1 September 2004
Page 2

We would appreciate receiving any written comments from your office by Friday, October 1, 2004. If you have any questions about this proposed project, please contact me at (763) 241-2272. If you wish to respond by e-mail, my address is cschmidt@greenergy.com. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely,

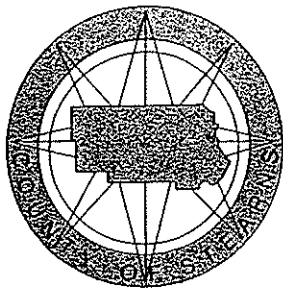
GREAT RIVER ENERGY

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carole L. Schmidt".

Carole L. Schmidt
Environmental Scientist

Enclosures

h:\cschmidt\Rockville\RockvilleDNR



COUNTY OF STEARNS

Environmental Services Department

Administration Center Rm 343 • 705 Courthouse Square • St. Cloud, MN 56303
320-656-3613 • Fax 320-656-6484 • 1-800-450-0852

December 2, 2004

To: Property Owners within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of Proposed Transmission Line Project
Chair and Clerk, St. Joseph Township
Sauk River Watershed District
City of Rockville

RE: Survey on Proposed Transmission Line Project near Rockville, MN

Great River Energy (GRE) and Stearns Electric Association (SEA) are proposing a joint 115-kilovolt (kV) project near Rockville in Stearns County, Minnesota. The proposed project includes construction of 3.75 miles of new GRE 115 kV transmission line and upgrading SEA's Rockville Substation from 34.5 kV to 115 kV, and is located in Sections 24, 25, 26, 34 and 35 T124N, R29W; and Section 3, T123N, R29W.

The transmission line would generally follow State Highway 23 from the existing SEA Rockville Substation northeasterly to the intersection with an Xcel Energy 115 kV transmission line, then continue northerly, paralleling this Xcel Energy line to Xcel Energy's Sauk River Substation (see enclosed fact sheet and map). The project is needed to provide better reliability and to meet growing electrical needs in the area.

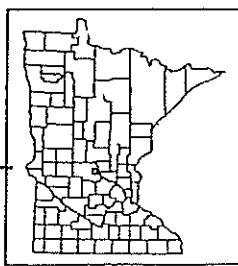
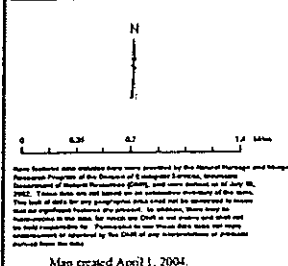
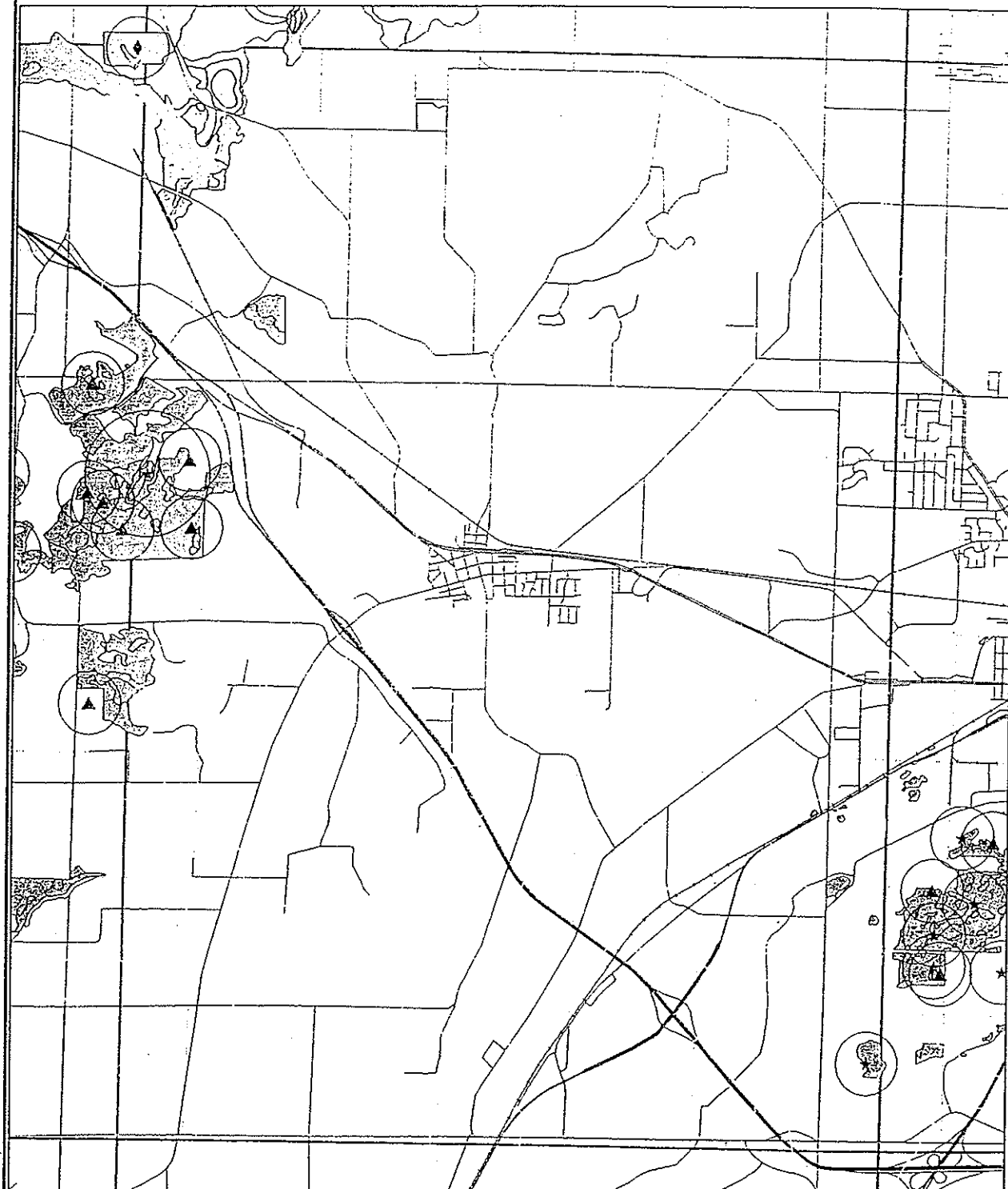
GRE and SEA are seeking approval for the project from Stearns County. As part of the permitting process, Stearns County must prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) on the project and afford the public an opportunity to participate in the development of the scope of the EA before it is prepared.

This survey is intended to allow the public to comment on the project and provide input on the content of the EA. A preliminary Table of Contents for the EA is attached as a starting point for what should be covered in the EA. We encourage you to provide comments on the project and additional topics you want to see addressed in the EA.

Sensitive Areas

St. Joseph 1:24,000 U.S.G.S. Quadrangle (DNR Code = P12d)

Includes portions of Stearns County



- Center of Highly Sensitive Areas
- Center of Sensitive Plant Areas
- ▲ Center of Sensitive Animal Areas
- ▼ Center of Significant Native Plant Community Areas
non-Minnesota County Biological Survey Counties Only
- Significant Native Plant Communities
Identified by the Minnesota County Biological Survey
- Buffer Designating Sensitive Areas
- Significant Railroad Prairie Right-of-Way Areas

- Water bodies
- County boundaries
- Township lines
- Section lines
- Quadrangle border
- Major Roads
- Other Roads
- Railroads

United Services Group
GIS Department
17845 East Highway 10
Ely, MN 55730-0341
(763) 241-3766

UNITED SERVICES GROUP AND GREAT RIVER ENERGY
MAKE NO WARRANTY AS TO THE ACCURACY OR LEGALITY
OF THE DATA ILLUSTRATED IN THIS DOCUMENT.

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Map created April 1, 2004.

APPENDIX D

LANDOWNER SURVEY AND RESPONSES TO SURVEY


Rockville Substation / ST-RV 115 kV Transmission Line project



GREAT RIVER
ENERGY

GREAT RIVER ENERGY
17845 East Hwy 10 P.O. Box 800
Elk River, MN 55330-0800
763-441-3121
www.greatriverenergy.com



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 
The power of human connections

STEARNS ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION
900 East Kraft Drive PO Box 40
Melrose, MN 56352
800-962-0655
www.stearnsselectric.org



XCEL ENERGY
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401
612-330-5893
www.xcelenergy.com

PROJECT NEED

The existing electric transmission and distribution system serving the area in the vicinity of Rockville needs to be upgraded to provide better reliability and increased capacity to serve the increasing load. The existing 34.5 kV system in this area is weak and historically has not satisfied reliability standards. Conversion to a 115 kV system will allow Stearns Electric Association (SEA) to better transfer loads between multiple distribution substations during emergency situations and during routine switching operations. Furthermore, upgrading to a 115 kV system in the Rockville area will meet SEA customer's electric needs for several decades.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project includes the construction of 3.75 miles of 115 kV transmission line by Great River Energy (GRE) of Elk River, MN. GRE is an electric generation and transmission cooperative providing wholesale electricity to SEA. The new transmission line will deliver electricity from the existing Xcel Energy Sauk River Substation to SEA's Rockville distribution substation. The Rockville distribution substation is located at the intersection of Trunk Highway 23 and Stearns County Road 6. The proposed transmission line route will generally follow State Highway 23 from the Rockville Substation northeasterly to where it intersects an existing Xcel Energy 115 kV transmission line. The new transmission line will continue northerly, parallel with the existing Xcel Energy line to the Sauk River Substation (see Project Map on back). Figure 1 and Figure 2 illustrate typical 115 kV transmission line structures and a typical 115 kV distribution substation that will be utilized for this project. To make provisions for connecting the proposed GRE 115 kV transmission line, Xcel Energy plans to convert its existing in and out 115 kV Sauk River Substation to a 4-position ring bus configuration. Figure 3 illustrates the existing Sauk River Substation.

Figure 1:
Typical GRE
115 kV Structure

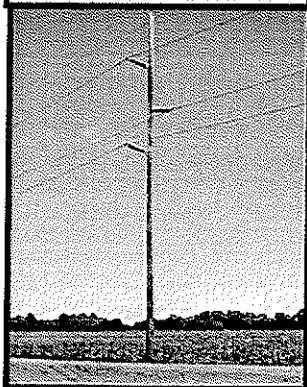


Figure 2:
Typical Stearns Electric
115 kV Distribution Substation

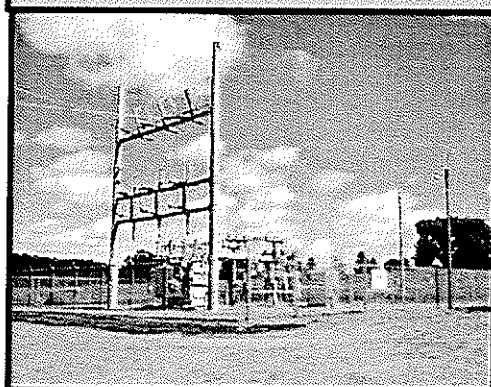


Figure 3:
Existing Xcel Energy
Sauk River Substation



PROJECT SCHEDULE

Conditional Use Permitting	_____	Fall, 2004
Easement Acquisition	_____	Spring, 2005
Transmission Line / Substation Construction	_____	Fall, 2005
Energize	_____	December, 2005

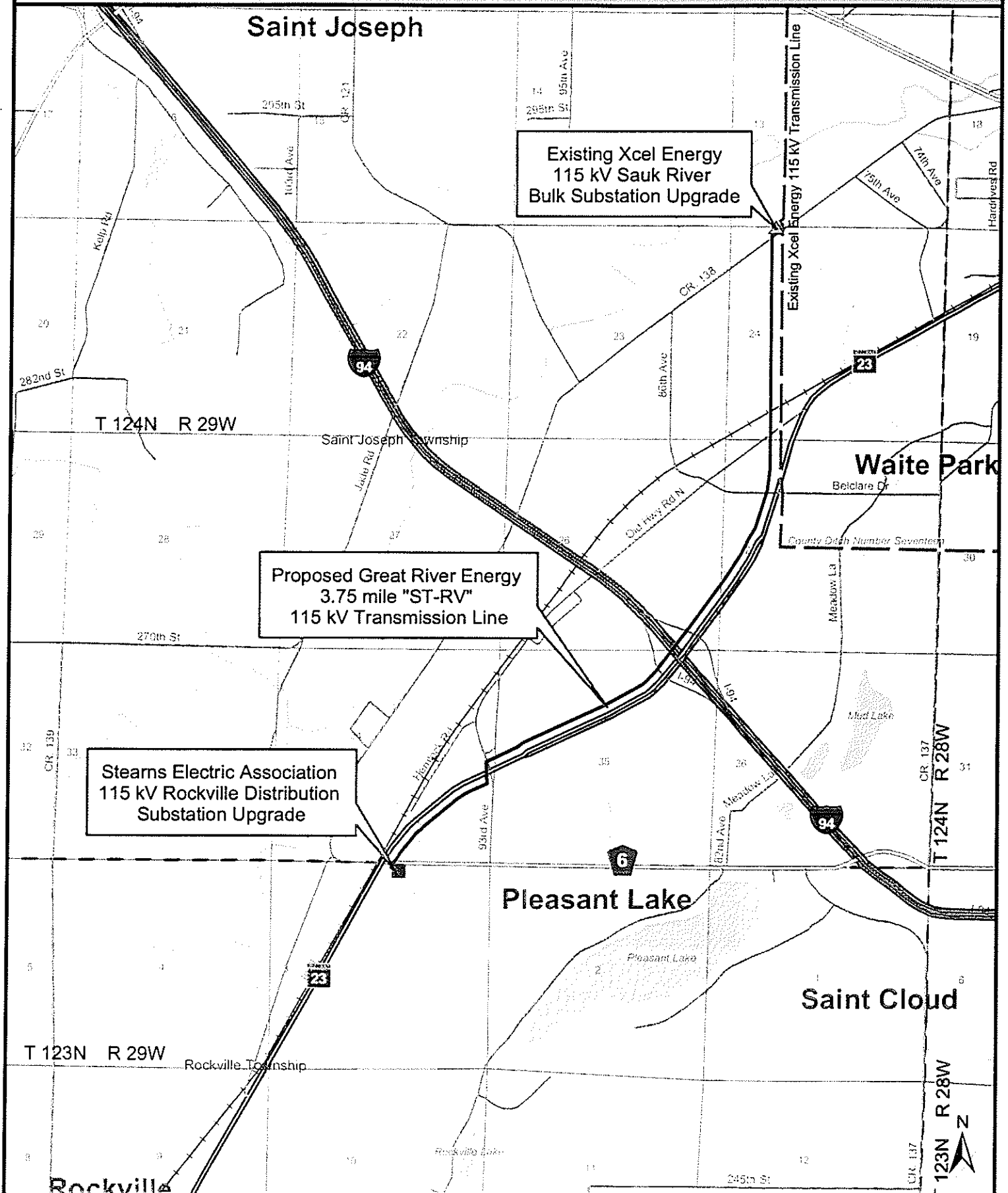
CONTACTS

Rick Heuring
Great River Energy
763-241-2337
1-800-442-3013
rheuring@grenergvy.com

Tim Weir
Stearns Electric Assoc.
320-256-1604
1-800-962-0655
tweir@stearnsselectric.org

Pam Rasmussen
Xcel Energy
1-800-7968 (Ext. 4661)
pamela.jo.rasmussen@xcelenergy.com

PROJECT MAP



Preliminary Landowners

Pub Mtg Notice	PID #	Last Name	First Name	2nd Name	Mailing Address	City/State/Zip	Phone #	Property Add	County	Sec	Twp	Rge	Legal
		LMTD			AVE N								
Yes	31.21130.000	HOFFMANN	JOHN F & MARTHA		26274 93RD AVE	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320- 252- 4896			35	124	29	N 1/2 SW 1/4 & SW 1/4 SW 1/4
Yes	31.21156.006	ANDERSON PROP OF ST CLOUD LLP			PO BOX 1377	ST CLOUD MN 56302				25	124	29	A T S INDUSTRIAL PARK LOT 4, BLK 1
Yes	31.21251.000	STOMMES	JOHN H		8137 OLD HWY RD N	ST CLOUD MN 56301				24	124	29	DELANO ACRES LOT 6, BLK 1
Yes	76.41604.800	KRAUS	JEFFREY G & GINA M		22877 FOX FIRE CT	COLD SPRING MN 56320				3	123	29	
Yes	76.41604.900	PELZER	MONICA E		9563 CO RD 6	ST CLOUD MN 56301				3	123	29	
Yes	76.41605.010	SALZL	VERNON		21770 FISHER CT	COLD SPRING MN 56320	320- 253- 4243			3	123	29	N 1/2 NW 1/4
Yes	76.41605.100	STEARNS COOP ELECTRIC ASSN			900 E KRAFT DR	MELROSE MN 56352				3	123	29	NW 1/4 NE 1/4
YES		DEVINE	WILLIAMS	LAMAR ADVERTISING COMPANY	PO BOX 865	ST. CLOUD MN 56302							

Note: Some landowners own more than one parcel in the proposed transmission corridor, but they are listed only once in this table.

APPENDIX B

LEGAL NOTICES AND MEDIA INFORMATION

Preliminary Landowners

Pub Mtg Notice	PID #	Last Name	First Name	2nd Name	Mailing Address	City/State/Zip	Phone #	Property Add	County	Sec	Twp	Rge	Legal
Yes	31.20970.005	SCHNEIDER	GARY & JODI		11212 GRAND LAKE RD	COLD SPRING MN 56320	320- 255- 8829			25	124	29	SW 1/4 NW 1/4
Yes	31.20972.000	SIEBEN	CHRISTINE M		8245 BEL CLARE DR	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320- 229- 9558			25	124	29	W 1/2 NW 1/4
Yes	31.20981.000	HELD	RICHARD E & KAREN M		7802 BEL CLARE DR	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320- 252- 6590			26	124	29	SE 1/4 NE 1/4
Yes	31.21002.000	HAGBERG	BRUCE T & VICKY L		8702 OLD HWY RD N	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320- 252- 5413			26	124	29	N 1/2 SE 1/4 SE 1/4
Yes	31.21003.000	THOMPSON	NANCY LEE		26615 133RD AVE	COLD SPRING MN 56320	320- 685- 3665			26	124	29	S 1/2 SE 1/4 SE 1/4
Yes	31.21097.010	FANSLAU	MICHAEL J		9595 HEMLOCK RD	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320- 202- 7838			34	124	29	NW 1/4 SE 1/4
Yes	31.21104.000	MOLITOR	DANIEL L & THERESA		26703 93RD AVE	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320- 253- 3654			34	124	29	SE 1/4 NE 1/4
Yes	31.21104.001	BECTOLD, TRUSTEE	DANNA M		9386 OLD HWY RD S	ST CLOUD MN 56301				34	124	29	SE 1/4 NE 1/4
Yes	31.21118.000	ANDERSON, TRUSTEE	JEANETTE J		1832 LINDA LN	ST CLOUD MN 56301				34	124	29	SW 1/4 SE 1/4
Yes	31.21120.025	HORIZONS WEST LTD PARTNER			9834 CO RD 122	ST CLOUD MN 56301				34	124	29	SE 1/4 SW 1/4 & SW 1/4 SE 1/4
Yes	31.21122.000	KTH II FAMILY LIMITED PART			2195 SILVER LAKE RD	NEW BRIGHTON MN 55112				35	124	29	NE 1/4
Yes	31.21124.000	ANDERSON GRANDCHILDREN			203 COOPER	ST CLOUD MN 56303				35	124	29	NW 1/4

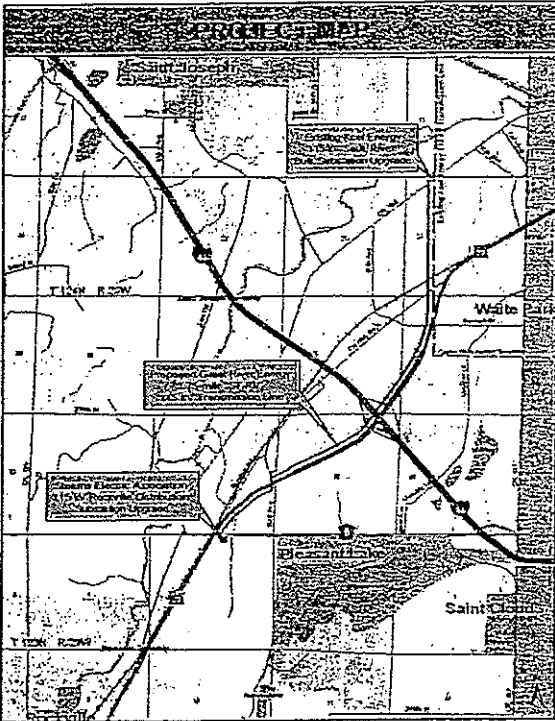
Preliminary Landowners

Pub Mfg Notice	PID #	Last Name	First Name	2nd Name	Mailing Address	City/State/Zip	Phone #	Property Add	County	Sec	Twp	Rge	Legal
Yes		XCEL ENERGY			414 NICOLLET MALL	MINNEAPOLIS MN 55401				13	124	29	SW 1/4 SW 1/4
Yes	31.20817.000	IMHOLTE	FRANK B & MARGARET		8158 CO RD 138	ST. CLOUD MN 56301	(320) 255-9398			13	124	29	
Yes	31.20818.000	HARDRIVES INC.		Steve Hall, President	14475 QUIRAM DR	ROGERS MN 55374	(763) 428-8886			13	124	29	SE 1/4 SW 1/4 SLY OF RD
Yes	31.20956.000	WALKER	MICHAEL		8179 COUNTY RD 138	ST. CLOUD MN 56301	320-251-3942			24	124	29	E 1/2 NE 1/4
Yes	31.20958.000	DONOVAN	DONNA M		PO BOX 1302	ST CLOUD MN 56302	320-251-2181			24	124	29	SE 1/4 NW 1/4
Yes	31.20960.000	BROMENSCHENKEL	DAVID & L		8524 INDIGO RD	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320-252-5212			24	124	29	S 1/2 SW 1/4
Yes	31.20960.005	ANDERSON PROP OF ST CLOUD LLP			203 COOPER AVEN	ST CLOUD MN 56303				24	124	29	
Yes	31.20961.000	ERICKSON	ROBERT V & EVELYN		1410 ROBERTA DR	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320-251-2253			24	124	29	SE 1/4 SW 1/4
Yes	31.20968.000	CLASSEN	EVELYN		7896 BEL CLARE DR	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320-251-9350			25	124	29	NE 1/4 NW 1/4
Yes	31.20969.000	SKAGGS	MARVIN & SANDRA		7924 BEL CLARE DR	ST CLOUD MN 56301	320-252-0665			25	124	29	NE 1/4 NW 1/4
Yes	31.20970.000	SCHNEIDER	HAROLD & MARY L		625 ST ANDREW DR	WAITE PARK MN 56387	320-251-7812			25	124	29	SW 1/4 NW 1/4

PUBLIC MEETING - OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, October 21, 2004

8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Township Hall
935 College Avenue South
St. Joseph, MN 56374



Great River Energy (GRE), wholesale electric supplier to Stearns Electric Association (SEA), will hold a public information meeting at the St. Joseph Township Hall on Thursday, October 21, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. to review the proposed 115-kV transmission line and substation to be constructed along Trunk Highway 23 (see project map). The purpose of the transmission line and substation is to improve electric reliability to SEA customers in the Rockville and St. Joseph service area.

If you cannot attend this meeting, questions or comments may be directed to Rick Heuring at GRE - 800-442-3013 ext. 2337 or Tim Weir at SEA - 320-256-1604.

10.15.541217

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF STEARNS

Terri Panek, being duly sworn on oath, says that she is the publisher or authorized agent and employee of the newspaper known as the St. Cloud Times, and has full knowledge of the facts which are stated below:

(a) The St. Cloud Times has complied with all of the requirements constituting a qualified newspaper, as defined by Minnesota Statutes 331A.01 to 331A.11 and other applicable laws, as amended.

(b) She further states that the printed Public Notice: Public Meeting Open House hereto attached as a part hereof was cut from the columns of the St. Cloud Times, and was printed and published therein in the English language, that it was so published on: Friday, October 15, 2004. The following is a printed copy of the lower case alphabet from 'a' to 'z', both inclusive, and is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of said notice, to-wit:

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Terri Panek
Terri Panek

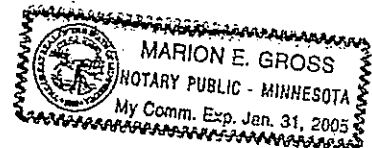
Subscribed and sworn to before me October 15th, 04

Marion E. Gross
Notary Public, Minnesota

My commission expires January 31, 2005.

Rate Information

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Lowest classified rate paid by commercial users for comparable space: | 2.4 / 3.22 daily/Sunday per agate line |
| 2. Maximum rate allowed by law for the above matter: | 2.4 / 3.22 daily/Sunday per agate line |
| 3. Rate actually charged for 6pt line: | 1.09 / 1.37 daily/Sunday |
| 4. Rate actually charged for bold inch: | 19.43 / 24.07 daily/Sunday |
| 5. The rates above will carry a 10% surcharge for Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. | |



Agencies

Pub Mtg Notice	Company	Name	Title	Address	Address 2	City State Zip	Phone No
Yes	Council Member	Ed Karls		PO Box 363		Rockville, MN 56369	
Yes	Council Member	Lloyd Lommel		7682 Co Rd. 141		Kimball, MN 55353	
Yes	Council Member	Don Simon		PO Box 157		Rockville, MN 56369	
Yes	Council Member	Greg Simones		9379 Co Rd. 6		St. Cloud, MN 56301	
Yes	Council Member	Randy Volkmuth		25742 Lake Rd.		St. Cloud, MN 56301	
Yes	Stearns Co Soil & Water Cons. District	Dennis Fuchs		1102nd St. S, Ste. 128		Waite Park, MN 56387	320-251- 7800, ext 3

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF STEARNS

SS.

Patty Austreng, being duly sworn, on oath says that he/she is publisher or authorized agent and employee of the publisher of the newspaper known as the Cold Spring Record, and has full knowledge of the facts which are stated below:

(A) The newspaper has complied with all the requirements constituting qualification as a legal newspaper, as provided by Minnesota Statute 331.02, 331.06, and other applicable laws, as amended.

(B) The printed Public Meeting - Open House
Great River Energy (GRE)

which is attached, was cut from the columns of said newspaper, and was printed and published once each week, for one successive weeks; it was first published on Tuesday, the 12th day of October, 20 04, and was thereafter printed and published on every Tuesday, to and including Tuesday, the day of , 20 ; and printed below is a copy of the lower case alphabet from A to Z, both inclusive, which is hereby acknowledged as being the size and kind of type used in the composition and publication of the notice:

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

BY Patty Austreng

TITLE Agent

Subscribed and sworn before me on this 16th day of

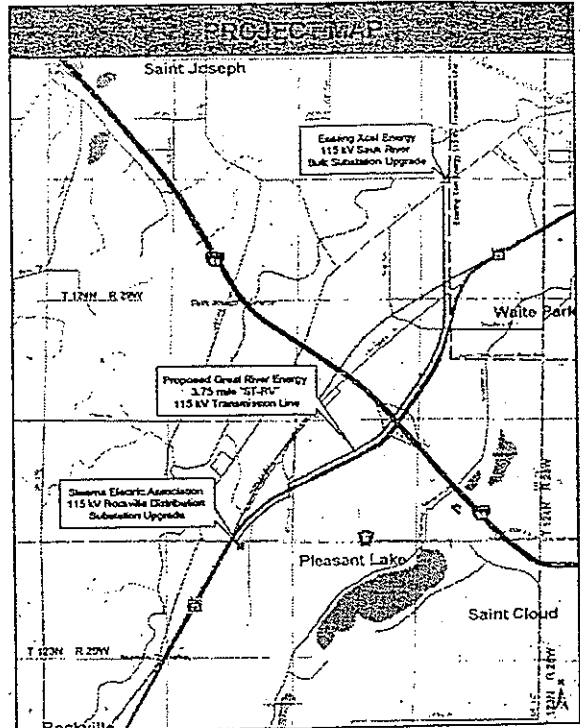
November, 20 04.

Lois Marie Lieser

Notary Public

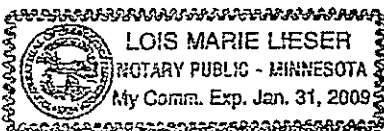
PUBLIC MEETING - OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, October 21, 2004
8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Township Hall
935 College Avenue South
St. Joseph, MN 56374



Great River Energy (GRE), wholesale electric supplier to Stearns Electric Association (SEA), will hold a public information meeting at the St. Joseph Township Hall on Thursday, October 21, 2004 at 8:00 p.m. to review the proposed 115-kV transmission line and substation to be constructed along Trunk Highway 23 (see project map). The purpose of the transmission line and substation is to improve electric reliability to SEA customers in the Rockville and St. Joseph service area.

If you cannot attend this meeting, questions or comments may be directed to Rick Heuring at GRE - 800-442-3013 ext. 2337 or Tim Weir at SEA - 320-256-1604.



PROJECT MAILING LISTS

Agencies						
Pub Mtg Notice	Company	Name	Title	Address 1	Address 2	City State Zip Phone No
Yes	MNDOT, District 3B	Mark Renn	Roadway Regulations Supervisor	3725 12th St. N		St. Cloud, MN 56303
Yes	Stearns Co Environmental Services	Jennifer Buckentine	Environmental Specialist	Administration Center Rm 343	705 Courthouse Square	St. Cloud, MN 56303
Yes	Rockville City Clerk	Rena Weber		209 Broadway St. E	PO Box 98	Rockville, MN 56369
Yes	Stearns Co Public Works Dept.	Mitchell A. Anderson, Director		PO Box 246		St. Cloud, MN 56302
Yes	St. Joseph Twp Clerk	Anna Reischl		10187 295th St.		St. Joseph, MN 56374
Yes	St. Joseph Twp Treasurer	Robert B. Rassier		29748 91st Ave.		St. Joseph, MN 56374
Yes	St. Joseph Twp Chairman	Joseph Bechtold		28263 Jade Rd.		St. Cloud, MN 56301
Yes	St. Joseph Twp Supervisor	Jerome Salzer		28747 Kelp Rd.		St. Joseph, Mn 56374
Yes	St. Joseph Twp Supervisor	Greg Berg		9832 Hawthorne Rd.		St. Cloud, MN 56301
Yes	Stearns Co Env. Services Dept	Don Adams		705 Courthouse Square Rm 343		St. Cloud, MN 56303
Yes	Stearns Co Commissioner	Mark Sakry, 2nd District		413 South 10th Ave.		Waite Park, MN 56387
Yes	Stearns Co Commissioner	Vince Schaefer, 3rd District		PO Box 66		Rockville, MN 56369
Yes	Mayor Brian Herberg			533 Cypress Court		Cold Spring, MN 56320
Yes	Council Member	Ed Hunstiger		23000 93rd Ave. Ave.		St. Cloud, MN 56301

APPENDIX C

PROJECT MAILING LISTS

